The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" The Government have no information. But I believe that the benefit of the improvement will go to the taluk board."

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo :—" First of all the taluk board money was spent on the president's private land in order to appreciate the value of the land. What money has been paid as also for improving the land itself?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I am sorry the hon. Member is labouring under a mistake. No price was paid."

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo :—" Was it transferred as a gift, a free gift?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Yes."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Was it a vacant land?"

Contribution to the Andhra Jatheeya Kalasala by the Chatrapur taluk board.

* 99 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the taluk board of Chatrapur, Ganjam district, sanctioned a sum of Rs. 25 for the Andhra Jatheeya Kalasala, Masulipatam; and

(b) whether objection has been raised to the said grant on the ground that it is not an institution recognized by Government?

A.—(a) & (b) The answer is in the affirmative.

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" May I know if the Government was not making a contribution to this Kalasala?"

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" They have been making the contribution. But the Director of Public Instruction since reported that it did not deserve the contribution."

Mr. C RAMALINGA REDDI :—" I was told that the Minister was going to reconsider the question."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Yes, if an application is made, it will be considered on its merits."

Alleged issue of surcharge certificate against certain municipal councillors of Tirupati.

* 100 Q.—Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether a surcharge certificate has been issued by the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts against six municipal councillors of Tirupati in respect of a sum of Rs. 5-8-0 expended by the council for a telegram to Mahatma Gandhi regarding his grave illness in January 1924;

(b) the reason why the surcharge order was issued; and

(c) whether the Municipal Council, Tirupati, has protested against such surcharge?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Because the expenditure incurred in sending the telegram was not a legitimate charge on municipal funds incidental to municipal administration.

(*c*) No.

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo :—" May I know why surcharge certificate was issued only against the six municipal councillors ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I want notice of the question."

Sriman SASIBHUSHAN RATH Mahasayo :—" May I know whether the Government have no powers to authorize what may be termed ' extraordinary expenditure ' ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" They have ; but in this case they did not consider it necessary to exercise those powers."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" Are not charges incurred with regard to postage, etc , within the powers of the municipality ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" I do not think they can incur the expenditure in question. "

Election of President of Rajampet taluk board.

* 101 *Q.*—Mr S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he has received a copy of the proceedings of a public meeting held at Nandalur on 24th March 1925 to the effect that the presidentship of Rajampet Taluk Board should be thrown open to election ;

(*b*) whether the Government have any intention of doing so ; and

(*c*) if not, why not ?

A.—(*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to Notification No. 585, dated 26th May 1925, nominating M.R.Ry. P. Raghava Reddi as President of the Rajampet Taluk Board.

(*c*) The Government considered that in the best interests of the taluk board a president should for the present be nominated.

Contract to Messrs. Hoe & Co. for printing the local and municipal forms.

* 102 *Q.*—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the contract for printing the local and municipal forms was given to Messrs. Hoe & Co. and for how long ;

(*b*) when the rates were revised and the contract was renewed and for what period ;

(*c*) the percentage of increase allowed on the existing rates ;

(*d*) when the contract is coming to a close ;

(*e*) why no public tenders were invited ; and

(*f*) when fresh tenders are going to be called ?